Checkgates on NH for Collection of Taxes

5390. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments are authorised to establish checkgates on National Highways for collection of taxes;

(b) if so, the parameters which are banned and which are permissible; and

(c) the list of States which have so far established such checkgates in violation of the rules indicating State-wise locations and nature of taxes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) and (b) The policy of the Government is not to permit erection of checkgates/barriers on National Highways within the Right of Way. However, the State Governments may erect tax collection barriers outside the Right of way of National Highways, with prior permision of the Central Government. In emergent situations like maintenance of law and order or natural calamities like floods, earthquake etc., temporary check barriers can be erected by the State Governments.

(c) Details are given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of check-gates indicating number of locations and nature of taxes

Sl. No.	States	No. of locations	Nature of taxes
1.	Assam	92	Sales, Excise, Forest, Agriculture, Municipal and Law & Order
2.	Delhi	5	Entry tax
3.	Gujarat	8	Commercial
4.	Himachal Pradesh	6	Excise Tax
5.	Karnataka	13	Commercial, Forest, Excise and Law & Order

Sl. No.	States	No. of locations	Nature of taxes
6.	Kerala	9	Sales, Road Tax and Forest check posts
7.	Manipur	36	Commercial, Octroi, Forest, Excise and Law & Order
8.	Meghalaya	24	Commercial, Octroi, Forest, Excise, Law and Order and Royalty (Distt. Councils)
9.	Orissa	107	Commercial, Octroi, Forest, Sales Municipal
10.	Rajasthan	9	Commercial, Municipal
11.	Uttaranchal	20	Forest, Sales Tax
12.	Uttar Pradesh	16	Trade Tax

Increase in accidents and robberies on NHs

5391. SHRI S.S. CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the increasing accidents and robberies on the National Highways;

(b) whether Government would consider setting up of 'Highways Police and Highways Mobile Hospitals' in public interest; and

(c) the details of the facilities available for the National Highway users?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) As per information available the number of road accidents during last three years on National Highways are as under:

Year	Road accidents
1998	98690(P)
1999	103839
2000	110322(P)

(P = Provisional)